grown in Gujarat are in excess of the requirements considered in the light of the national average. However, it is a fact that the oilseeds grown in the State are not necessarily processed within the State or even the edible oils produced in the State are not necessarily consumed within the State.

(b) No, Sir. On the other hand, over the year there has been some decline in the prices of edible oils.

(c) On the basis of national per capita consumption of 6.5 kg. per annum, the requirement of Gujarat for edible oils per month works out to around 22,000 MT. However, the requirement of edible oils as communicated by the Gujarat Government for the year 1990-91 basically for PDS purposes was 2.4 lakh MT corresponding to 20,000 MT per month.

(d) The quantity of imported edible oils allocated by the Central Government and the quantity lifted by the State Government in the last two years have been as under :—

Year	Allocation by Central Govt.	Lifting by the Gujarat Government
1989-90	78,450 MT	66,443 MT
1990-91	15,809 MT	,797 MT

(e) In order to meet the requirement of edible oils in the State, the Central Government has been allocating oils for PDS as a supplemental measure. Besides, State Governments have been authorised to directly import edible oils subject to certain conditions.

Distribution of wheat, rice and sugar to poor people

439. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering seriously to provide wheat, rice and sugar through the Fair Price Shops only to the poor sections of the Society ;

(b) if so, the details of the poor sections of the society defined by Government ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Governments have agreed to adopt the proposals of the Central Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action of the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d) The Public Distribution System is universal in character, and does not distinguish the beneficiaries based on income of occupation. There has been no change in the policy of the Government in this regard.

Irregularities in Delhi Super Bazar

440. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Audit Report 1990-91 on the accounts of the Delhi Super Bazar has revealed gross irregularities resulting in heavy losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into affairs of the Super Bazar to fix responsibility; and

(d) if so, the outcome there of and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Audit Report on the Accounts for 1990-91 does not point out gross irregulrities and it ma.nly containt observations on the day-to-day working of the Store and some suggestions for improvement. Progress of rectification of deficiencies, if any pointed out will be watched by the management of the Super Bazar.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

441. **श्री रणजीत सिंह** : क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 2 जनवरी, 1992 के "दि इंडियन एक्सप्रेस" में "पी एम होल्ड टाक्स विद-मिनीस्टर" शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि कतिपय राज्य सरकारों के प्रतिनिधियों ने हाल ही में की गई आवश्यक वस्तुओं की मूल्य वृद्धि पर केन्द्रीय सरकार के समक्ष गहरी चिंता व्यक्त की है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस मूल्य वृद्धि के कारण खुले बाजार में भी खाद्यान्नों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि हो गयी है और यह मूल्य वृद्धि एक ऐसे बढ़े हुये स्तर पर आकर स्थिर हो गयी है जो कि आम आदमी की क्षमता से बाहर है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकटस्वामी) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश, केरल, गोवा तथा साथ ही कुछ व्यक्तियों से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुये हैं ।

(ग) व (घ) खुले बाजार में मूल्य, वस्तुओं की मांग व आपूर्ति, उत्पादन, ढुलाई की लागत में बृद्धि, आदि जैसी कई बातों पर निर्भर करते हैं । खाद्यान्नों के निर्गम मूल्यों में वृद्धि का खुले बाजार मूल्यों पर बहुत कम प्रभाव पड़ता है । सरकार आवश्यक वस्तुओं की मांग व आपूर्ति में असंतुलन को दूर करने के लिये उत्पादन में बृद्धि के जरिये तथा जहां कहीं आवश्यक है आयात करके तथा नियामक उपायों को लागू करके उपयुक्त उपाय करती रही है ।

New Fair Price Shops

442. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recenly initiated certain steps to revamp the public distribution system in the country and to open more fair price shops ;

(b) if so, the est'mated number of new fair price shops proposed to be opened both in the urban and rural areas of the country and the estimated additional population likely to be served by the Public Distribution System ; and

(c) the measures contemplated by Government to revamp the delivery system of the essential commodities to the Public Distribution System to ensure their uninterrupted availability to the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) Yes sir. The Government has